

## Modern Age Poetry Worksheet

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Period: \_\_\_\_\_

### Wilfred Owen

**“Dulce et Decorum Est” (key words: war, death, irony)- pg. 1053**

1. In the first stanza, what words does Owen use to describe the line of soldiers?
2. What is the atmosphere like on the battlefield?
3. What happens to the “boys” while they’re in the trenches?
4. What or who does the poet see as the soldiers are struggling with the “green sea”?
5. The poet suggests that if “you” saw and experienced what he did, you would not do what?
6. What does *Dulce et Decorum Est* mean?
7. What effect does the line have at the end of the poem?

### William Butler Yeats

**“When You Are Old” (key words: memory, love, the past) – pg. 1060**

8. What does the poet tell the person to whom he’s writing to do when they’re old?
9. What sort of things did other people love about this person?
10. The poet loved what about this person?

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11. How is this different from the others?

12. What does the poet think the person might do as she reads?

13. What kind of relationship might the poet and this person have had?

**“The Second Coming” (key words: philosophical, apocalyptic) – pgs. 1066-1067**

14. Gyre -

15. Spiritus mundi -

16. What images does Yeats use as symbols for the cycles of history?

17. How does he describe the world?

18. What does he think is about to happen to the world?

19. What beast does Yeats describe as “a shape with lion body and the head of man”?

20. What does the line “slouches toward Bethlehem to be born” reference?

21. What might have inspired Yeats to write such a poem?

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### **Dylan Thomas**

**“Do Not Go Gentle into That Good Night” (key words: resistance to death, valuing life)-pg. 1150**

22. The wise, good, wild, and grave men have what in common?

23. How does the poet feel you should approach death?

24. What message does the poet convey about life as he talks about his attitude of death?

25. Do you agree or disagree with his philosophy on death and dying?